



# Year of Sovereignty FACT SHEET



## IRAQI SOVEREIGNTY

- Iraq became a sovereign nation on June 28, 2004.
- The United Nations Security Council has given its full support to the Iraqi Government. The election held on January 30, 2005 was an important step towards a democratic government. The next milestone will be the writing of the constitution by August 15, as the road to long-term stability goes through democratic political processes.

## IRAQI GOVERNMENT

- On March 8, 2004, the “Law of Administration for the State of Iraq for the Transitional Period” was signed. This law governs Iraq until a constitution is drafted and ratified in 2005.
- The Iraqi people took responsibility for their government with the transfer of sovereignty and the establishment of the Interim Iraqi Government on June 28, 2004.
- The National Assembly was elected and seated in Aug 2004.
- The first democratic election was held in Iraq on January 30, 2005.
- The Transitional National Assembly met for the first time on March 16, 2005.
- Iraq’s Transitional Government leaders were sworn in May 4, 2005.
- There has been 16 governorate councils, 78 district councils, 192 city or sub-district councils, and 392 neighborhood councils established, allowing more than 19 million people to engage in local policy discourse.
- There has been more than 660 community associations in 16 governorates established as part of a campaign targeting grassroots democracy.
- Countries with Embassies established in Iraq (49):

Algeria  
Australia  
Austria  
Bahrain  
Bangladesh  
Bulgaria  
Canada

China  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Egypt  
Finland  
France  
Germany

Greece  
Hungary  
India  
Iran  
Italy  
Japan  
Jordan



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Republic of Korea	Romania	Turkey
Lebanon	Russian Federation	UAE
Morocco	Serbia and Montenegro	Ukraine
Netherlands	Sri Lanka	United Kingdom
Nigeria	Slovak Republic	USA
Pakistan	Spain	Vatican
Palestine	Sudan	Viet Nam
Philippines	Switzerland	Yemen
Poland	Syria	
Portugal	Tunisia	

## Iraqi Government Officials

President	Jalal Talabani
Vice president	Sheikh Khazi Ajeel Alyawer
Vice president	Adel Abd El Mehdi
Prime minister	Ibrahim al-Jaafari
Deputy prime minister	Rowsh Norri Shawis
Deputy prime minister	Ahmad Al-Chalabi
Deputy prime minister	Abed Muttluq Humoud Mohammed Al Jibouri
Ministry of Agriculture	Ali Hussain Al-Behadli
Ministry of Communications	Jwan Fouad Masum
Ministry of Culture	Norri Ferhan Al-Rawi
Ministry of Defense	Sadoon Jeweir Farhan Al-Duleimi
Ministry of Displacement and Migration	Suheilah Abed Jaffer Al-Kinani
Ministry of Education	Abdul Fallah Hassan
Ministry of Electricity	Muhsin Shlash
Minister of Environment	Nermin Uthman
Ministry of Finance	Ali Abdulameer Allawi
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Hoshiyar Zebari
Ministry of Health	Abdul Muttalib Ali Mohammed Salleh Al-Roubey
Ministry of Higher Education	Sami al-Mudhuffer
Ministry of Housing and Construction	Jassim Mohammed Jaffar
Ministry of Human Rights	Minister: vacant as of 15 May 2005
Ministry of Industry and Minerals	Muslleh Khuder Al-Jubouri
Ministry of Interior	Bayaan Baqer Solagh
Ministry of Justice	Abdul Hussain Shendel



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Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs  
Ministry of Oil  
Ministry of Planning  
Ministry of Public Works  
Ministry of Science and Technology  
Ministry of Sport and Youth  
Minister of State for National Security  
Minister of State for Governorates Affairs  
Minister of State for Civil Society Affairs  
Minister of State for National Assembly  
Minister of State for Tourism and Monuments  
Ministry of State for Women's Affairs  
Ministry of Trade  
Ministry of Transportation  
Ministry of Water Resources

Edrees Hadi  
Ibrahim Baher Al-Eloum  
Barhum Salleh  
Nesreen Mustafa Barwari  
Bassima Yousif Buttris  
Talib Aziz Zeini  
Abdul Kareem al-A'nzi  
Sa'ad Nayif Al-Hardan  
Alla'a Habib Kadhum  
Safa'a Al-Deen Mohammed Al-Safi  
Hasim Abdul Hassn Ali Al-Hashimi  
Azhar Abdul Kareem Al-Sheikhli  
Abdul Bassit Kareem Mauloud  
Selam Auda Faleh Al-Maliki  
Abdul Latif Jamal Rasheed

## **National Olympic Committee**

- The National Olympic Committee of Iraq was re-established through a long process of free, secret ballot, democratic elections through 450 sports clubs, every provincial Sports Federation, and every National Sports Federation. The election of the NOCI's Executive Board was supervised and validated by the International Olympic Committee and Iraq was readmitted to membership of the IOC on 27th February 2004.
- Iraq qualified and participated in the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. Iraq competed in seven Olympic sports: Soccer, Athletics, Boxing, Swimming, Taekwondo, Judo, and Weight Lifting. Iraq first sent a delegation of athletes to the 1948 London Olympic Summer Games and has competed in every Summer Games since. Iraq has yet to participate in the Winter Olympic Games.

## **Ministry of Education**

- Nearly 25% of the Iraqi population either attends a school of, or is directly employed by, the Ministry of Education. With a budget of \$984 million, the ministry oversees more than 20,000 schools, administrative offices, and educational facilities nationwide. The MoED provides the oversight and training needed to support 300,000 teachers in their work with more than 6 million K-12 students.
- As of June 2005, and despite years of neglect by the Saddam regime, an insurgency intent on intimidating teachers and students, and the damage caused by war, 3,105 schools have been renovated and another 950 schools are currently under rehabilitation.
- Considerable progress has been made in the field of education: 860 secondary school master trainers were trained and passed on training to 31,772 secondary school educators nationwide.



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More than 8.7 million revised math and science books have been printed, which no longer mention Saddam Hussein.

- The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR) consists of 21 universities, 46 institutes or colleges within the Community College system, two commissions and two research centers.
- There are two Ministries of Education in the Kurdish region comprised of three universities and nine institutes. They receive no budgetary support from the MHESR. There is a small number of private colleges in Iraq that are not managed by the MHESR.

## Ministry of Health

- Healthcare spending is up more than 30 times its prewar levels; more than 3 million children have received life-saving vaccinations.
- Iraq's Ministry of Health (MoH) on 4 September initiated the first polio immunization program in the country since the start of the war to topple Saddam Hussein in March 2003, in an effort to protect 4.7 million children from the infectious disease. With support from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the European Union (EU), who contributed over US \$2.5 million, the Iraqi authorities succeeded in immunizing the vast majority of children in the first three days of the campaign, UNICEF said. A total of 25 million doses of vaccine were purchased with help from a \$3.2 million grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

## IRAQI SECURITY FORCES

Iraqi government, supported by Multi National Security Training Corps – Iraq, is managing the organization, training and equipping of their Iraqi Security Forces, as well as in the rebuilding of security force bases, training academies, border forts, and other facilities.

The following list highlights accomplishments in the development of the ISF over the past year.

## Operations

- As of 18 June, 2005, there are approximately 168,581 trained and equipped Iraqi Security Forces.
- Since 2004, Iraqi forces have fought alongside Coalition Forces in Najaf, Samarra, Fallujah, Baghdad, North Babil, Mosul, and a host of other locations. More than one thousand Iraqi Security Force members have also lost their lives serving their country since the transfer of sovereignty. Although Iraqi forces have endured casualties, have been attacked multiple times each day, and have suffered losses through brutal intimidation attacks, there remains no



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shortage of volunteers. In fact, there are currently more than 17,000 recruits in training and they will join their units by late June.

## Ministry of Defense

- As of June 2005, the Iraqi Army has 75,820 troops.
- In less than a year, Iraqi Regular Army and Intervention Forces grew from one operational battalion in July 2004 to 107 operational battalions in June 2005.
- Iraq's Navy is now operational, with five 100-foot patrol craft, 34 smaller vessels, and a naval infantry regiment that defends the territorial waters and oil platforms.
- Iraq's Air Force has four operational squadrons equipped with nine reconnaissance aircraft that operate both day and night, and three US C-130 transport aircraft. Squadron 2 was stood up in April with five UH-1 helicopters and a Squadron of Bell Jet Rangers will be stood up this summer.
- Iraq's Special Operations Forces now include a superb Counter-Terrorist Force and a Commando Battalion, each of which has conducted dozens of successful operations.
- Iraq's 1st Mechanized Battalion became operational in mid-January. A company of T-55 tanks conducted gunnery in April. The Battalion will finish fielding the remaining tanks and APCs this summer.
- Iraq's two Military Academies reopened in mid-October and a total of 91 graduated from the two pilot courses. Currently, 206 cadets attend Zahko and 299 attend Rustimiyah. IMAR begins its year-long curriculum on May 8, 2005, with 219 new cadets.

## Ministry of Interior

- The Iraqi Police Service has over 92,761 trained and equipped regular police officers, up from 26,000 seven months ago. Of that, 61,922 are police and highway patrol.
- Seven basic police academies are now operational; together, they train over 3,500 new police officers from the 8-week course each month, a course designed to better prepare the police for the challenging environment in which many will serve. Several other regional academies that will conduct sustainment training are under construction.
- Iraq's National Police Emergency Response Unit is now operational and its elements have conducted operations in Baghdad, Fallujah, and Mosul.
- Iraq's Third and Fourth Special Border Force Battalions recently completed training and will join the First and Second Battalions as they patrol the Syrian and Jordanian borders in western Anbar Province.



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- Thirteen provincial SWAT teams have been trained and equipped. Three more teams are in training, and seven more are scheduled to complete training by August 2005.

## Other

- Members of the NATO Training Mission-Iraq are now helping to advise the National Joint Operations Center, the Ministry of Defense Operations Center, and the Ministry of Interior Operations Center, as well as the Armed Forces Joint Headquarters. Iraq has also started to reestablish its Staff College and War College.
- Enormous amounts of equipment have been delivered to Iraqi Armed Forces since July 1, 2004:
  - 371 million rounds of ammunition
  - 126,500 pistols
  - 147,000 AK-47s
  - 146,000 sets of body armor
  - 9,100 vehicles
  - 91,000 helmets
  - 7,000 heavy machine guns
  - 23,000 radios
- Approximately \$1.95 billion has already been committed in construction and reconstruction projects for Iraqi Security Forces. Projects include four multi-brigade installations, hundreds of police stations and border forts, countless headquarters and barracks, a number of training centers, and many operating bases.

## IRAQI ECONOMY

- Oil revenues from start of January 2004 to June 2004 were estimated to be \$8.1 billion. From June to December oil revenues were \$9.9 billion totaling around \$18.1 billion for the full 2004 year. From January 2005 to May 2005 oil revenues were estimated to be \$7.1 billion.
- Iraqi dinar is stable at 1470 dinars to the US dollar because it is a fixed exchange rate; however press reports and observers note that money markets in Iraq do not necessarily adhere to this rate. Currently there are 19 banks trading.
- Established by interim law number 74 dated April 19, 2004, the Baghdad Stock Exchange opened for trading on June 24, 2004.
- Iraq's National Debt is estimated at between \$119 – \$135 billion prior to debt forgiveness initiatives, and an expected \$50 billion of reparations for war damages.
- Currently, about 161,000 Iraqis are employed under reconstruction efforts, working on schools, clinic, roads and numerous other infrastructure projects.
- There have been 26,785 new Iraqi businesses established.
- The Trade Bank of Iraq has issued Iraq's first credit/debit cards.\*



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## RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

- The Iraq Relief & Reconstruction Fund (\$2.5 billion) and supplemental Appropriations (\$18.4 billion) have been committed to the re-building of Iraq. As of June 2005, \$15.3 billion has been obligated and \$7 billion has been disbursed.
- Since June 2004, over 2,500 construction projects have been started. During the same period, over 1,300 projects, valued at \$1.3 billion, have been completed.
- \$8.7 billion has been focused on providing reliable essential services (electricity, water, transportation, telecommunications, and oil). Over 700 essential service projects are either completed or underway.
- Electricity. A total of over 2,000 megawatts of power have been added to the grid (enough to service 5.4M Iraqi homes). Over 1,400 electrical towers and 8,600 kilometers of transmission lines have been installed. After a significant drop, the average daily load of electricity has bounced back to 92,467 MWh, comparable to the level when the transfer of power occurred. Fifty-eight electricity projects have been completed, and more than 100 are still in the works.
- Sixty-five water treatment projects have been completed, with almost 100 still in progress; 21 sewer projects are complete, with 15 still working.
- Health. Construction is underway on 142 new primary health care facilities across Iraq and one has been completed. Under the Accelerated Iraq Reconstruction Program, an additional two facilities are under construction and eight have been completed.
- Health care services are growing: 750 people passed their maternal and child health services training on to more than 2,000 primary healthcare providers.
- Security projects completed: 61 Port of Entry or Border facilities, 82 police stations, 17 academies and branch schools, 96 unit headquarters, and 19 fire stations.
- Telecommunications. Since the transfer of sovereignty, the number of landline communications subscribers has risen from 794,198 to 997,675; Internet subscribers have more than doubled; and cell phone subscribers have jumped from just 488,966 to almost 2.5 million.

Commander's Emergency Relief Program Funds. The Commander's Emergency Relief Program Funds has resulted in more than 34,512 projects to build and improve infrastructure, provide for the welfare of the citizens and support education. A sample of the degree of work includes:

- **Baghdad** – 1,029 total CERP projects - \$80 million (773 completed; 246 in progress; 10 additional projects planned)
- **Basra** – 27 total CERP projects - \$5.8 million (21 completed; 6 in progress)



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- **Mosul** – 341 total CERP projects - \$16.8 million (160 completed; 132 in progress; 49 additional projects planned)
- **Fallujah** – 289 total CERP projects - \$12 million (216 completed; 71 in progress; 2 additional projects planned)
- **Samarra** – 26 total CERP projects - \$2.2 million (11 completed; 14 in progress; 1 additional project planned)
- **Sadr City** – 71 total CERP projects – \$3.8 million (54 completed; 17 in progress)